

Entered February 15, 1977  
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BEFORE THE OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE MATTER OF THE HEARING CALLED BY THE  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION ON ITS OWN MOTION  
TO PERMIT JAMES W. STRAWN, AMERICAN EMPLOYERS  
INSURANCE COMPANY, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED  
PARTIES TO APPEAR AND SHOW CAUSE WHY THE HORTON  
WELL NO. 1 LOCATED IN UNIT A OF SECTION 32,  
TOWNSHIP 11 NORTH, RANGE 7 EAST, SANTA FE  
COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SHOULD NOT BE PLUGGED AND  
ABANDONED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A COMMISSION-APPROVED  
PLUGGING PROGRAM.

CASE NO. 5836  
Order No. R-5368

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

This cause came on for hearing at 9 a.m. on January 19, 1977,  
at Santa Fe, New Mexico, before Examiner Richard L. Stamets.

NOW, on this 15th day of February, 1977, the Commission,  
a quorum being present, having considered the testimony, the  
record, and the recommendations of the Examiner, and being  
fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

- (1) That due public notice having been given as required  
by law, the Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the  
subject matter thereof.
- (2) That James W. Strawn is the owner and operator of the  
Horton Well No. 1, located in Unit A of Section 32, Township 11  
North, Range 7 East, NMPM, Santa Fe County, New Mexico.
- (3) That American Employers Insurance Company is the  
surety on the Oil Conservation Commission plugging bond on which  
James W. Strawn is principal.
- (4) That the purpose of said bond is to assure the state  
that the subject well will be properly plugged when abandoned.
- (5) That said well was drilled to an estimated depth of  
approximately 1,900 feet during 1974 and has been abandoned  
since that time without being plugged.

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(6) That several water zones were encountered during the drilling of said well.

(7) That said well has potential use as a fresh water supply well.

(8) That in order to prevent waste and protect fresh water, said Horton Well No. 1 should be plugged and abandoned in accordance with a program approved by the Santa Fe District Office of the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission on or before April 30, 1977, or the well should be returned to active drilling status or converted to a water supply well.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That James W. Strawn and American Employers Insurance Company are hereby ordered to plug and abandon the Horton Well No. 1, located in Unit A of Section 32, Township 11 North, Range 7 East, NMPM, Santa Fe County, New Mexico, on or before April 30, 1977.

PROVIDED HOWEVER, that said well need not be so plugged if the same is returned to active drilling status or is converted to a water well in a manner acceptable to and approved by the Commission.

(2) That James W. Strawn and American Employers Insurance Company, prior to plugging and abandoning the above-described wells, shall obtain from the Santa Fe office of the Commission, a Commission-approved program for said plugging and abandonment, and shall notify the Santa Fe office of the date and hour said work is to be commenced whereupon the Commission may, at its option, witness such work.

(3) That jurisdiction of this cause is retained for the entry of such further orders as the Commission may deem necessary.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the day and year hereinabove designated.

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
OIL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

PHIL R. LUCERO, Chairman

EMERY O. ARNOLD, Member

JOE D. KAMEY, Member & Secretary

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